

## Message Text

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12

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00

EB-11 FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 SPC-03 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 SPM-01

DRC-01 /129 W

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P R 290752Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3103

USUN NEW YORK 1322

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA UNN

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

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PARIS FOR UNESCO

ROME FOR FODAG

VIENNA FOR UNIDO

MONTREAL FOR ICAO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, UNDP

SUBJECT: CERP 0008 - EVALUATION OF UN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

REFERENCE: STATE 42239

1. LETTERING OF FOLLOWING PARAS CORRESPONDS TO LETTERING OF  
REFTEL:

(A) LOCAL RESREP IS THE EFFECTIVE LEADER OF ALL UNDP ACTIVITIES  
IN KOREA AND SERVES AS FOCUS FOR ALL OTHER UN ACTIVITIES CONCER-  
NED WITH TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. RESREP AND  
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HIS STAFF MAINTAIN GOOD RELATIONSHIPS WITH ROKG AND OTHER DONOR

OFFICIALS, IBRD, UNICEF, WHO, UNFPA, AND OTHER UN AFFILIATES MAINTAIN GOOD COORDINATING RELATIONSHIPS WITH UNDP RESREP.

(B) ALL EXTERNAL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IS COORDINATED THROUGH THE BUREAU OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION, MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (MOST). IN ADDITION, UNDP COMPILES ANNUAL REPORT OF OTHER DONOR ASSISTANCE, FOR WHICH ALL MULTILATERAL AND BILATERAL DONORS SUPPLY INFORMATION. ALSO, THERE ARE FREQUENT INFORMAL MEETINGS BETWEEN UNDP, WHO, UNFPA, USAID AND OTHER DONOR STAFF. EXCEPT FOR COUNTRY PROGRAMMING EXERCISE, HOWEVER, THE ROKG HAS EXHIBITED LITTLE INTEREST IN FORMAL COORDINATION INVOLVING ROKG AND DONOR REPRESENTATIVES.

(C) TO DATE THERE HAS BEEN ONLY ONE COUNTRY PROGRAM REVIEW. THIS REVIEW DIRECTLY INVOLVED THE UNDP RESREP AND THE MOST TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE BUREAU DIRECTOR AND THEIR STAFFS. EXECUTING AGENCY PERSONNEL ALSO PARTICIPATED. OTHER DONORS WERE OFFICIALLY REQUESTED TO COMMENT ON THE COUNTRY PROGRAM, THE REVIEW, AND THE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT RESULTED. AS A RESULT OF THE COUNTRY PROGRAM AND THE REVIEW, SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES WERE MADE IN THE UNDP ASSISTANCE PACKAGE. EMPHASIS IS BEING SHIFTED OUT OF AGRICULTURE AND PHYSICAL RESOURCES, AND MORE ATTENTION IS BEING FOCUSED ON INDUSTRY, HUMAN RESOURCES AND A CATEGORY TITLED TRADE, COMMERCE AND TOURISM.

(D) AS A RESULT OF NEW GUIDELINES, UNDP RESREP NOW FORWARDS TO USAID FOR COMMENT ALL NEW PROJECTS THAT ARE BEING PROPOSED AT THE SAME TIME THAT THE PROPOSALS ARE FORWARDED TO UNDP HEADQUARTERS, AND USAID USES THE OPPORTUNITY TO CRITIQUE THE PROJECTS (ESPECIALLY WHEN THE PROPOSED PROJECTS ARE IN AREAS IN WHICH USAID HAS PROJECTS OR INTERESTS). THUS COORDINATION HAS BEEN ENHANCED.

(E) CURRENT ONGOING PROJECTS ARE BASICALLY EFFECTIVE. USAID KNOWS OF NO OUTSTANDINGLY SUCCESSFUL NOR PARTICULARLY WEAK PROJECTS. THE ROKG HAS REQUESTED SECOND PHASES OF SOME PROJECTS WITH WHICH THEY WERE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED. ONE SUCH PROJECT, THE FINE INSTRUMENTS CENTER, IS VIEWED BY USAID AS BEING OF SUBSTANTIAL BENEFIT IN THE FIELD OF INDUSTRIAL STANDARDS, AND WE ARE CURRENTLY CONTEMPLATING A DEVELOPMENT LOAN IN THE STANDARDS FIELD. THE UPLANDS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IS ALSO QUITE SUCCESSFUL, WHILE THE FOOD PROCESSING CENTER PROJECT HAS EXPERIENCED SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS (BUT THESE PROBLEMS WERE ADDRESSED IN AN EVALUATION REVIEW, AND IT IS BELIEVED THAT THEY HAVE BEEN SUCCESSFULLY OVERCOME). AT PRESENT, USAID KNOWS OF NO CRITICAL SHORTAGES OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ROKG CONTRIBUTIONS OR PERSONNEL BEING ASSIGNED TO INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS, BUT WE ARE AWARE OF SHORTAGES IN SOME PROJECTS WHICH HAVE CAUSED IMPLEMENTATION DELAYS OR OTHER DISTURBANCES. IT SHOULD BE NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT IN ADDITION TO ROKG SHORTAGES THERE HAVE BEEN SIGNIFICANT SHORTFALLS IN THE DELIVERY OF UNDP INPUTS. THE UNFPA DOLS. SIX MILLION GRANT TO KOREA WAS DELAYED FOR ABOUT ONE YEAR (IT HAS RECENTLY BEEN APPROVED, HOWEVER, AND THE PROJECT IS NOW PROGRESSING SATISFACTORILY). ONE SIGNIFICANT

PROBLEM WITH MANY UNDP PROJECTS (AND AID AND OTHER DONOR PROJECTS ALSO) IS THE SERIOUS DELAYS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TRAINING PROGRAMS DUE TO DELAYS IN ROKG SELECTION OF CANDIDATES, AND THE LIMITATIONS IN FOREIGN LANGUAGE SKILLS AND TECHNICAL QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES.

(F) THE TRIPARTITE REVIEW SYSTEM WAS SUBSTANTIALLY BEGUN WITH THE COUNTRY PROGRAM REVIEW CONDUCTED LAST YEAR. THE SYSTEM IS CURRENTLY BEING USED ON A CONTINUING BASIS TO REVIEW AND EVALUATE INDIVIDUAL UNDP PROJECTS. THE FOOLD PROCESSING CENTER MENTIONED ABOVE WAS THE SUBJECT OF SUCH A REVIEW AND THE RESULTS WERE THE ELIMINATION OF CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE PROJECT AND THE EMPHASIS OF OTHERS, WITH THE FINAL RESULT OF RENEWED ENTHUSIASM FOR THE EXPORT POTENTIAL OF THE PROJECT. THE UNDP RESREP'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1973 IS A CONCISE DOCUMENT WHICH FAIRLY PRESENTS THE SUCCESSFUL AND THE WEAK ASPECTS OF THE KOREAN COUNTRY PROGRAM. THE REPORT CONCLUDES THAT THE COUNTRY PROGRAM IS BASICALLY SATISFACTORY IN CONCEPT, CONTENT, AND EXECUTION, AND USAID DOES NOT TAKE EXCEPTION WITH THAT JUDGEMENT.

(G) THE UNDP HERE HAS EXPERIENCED DELAYS IN AGENCY RECRUITMENT OF PROJECT PERSONNEL AND IN THE ORDERING AND DELIVERY OF EQUIPMENT BY THE AGENCIES. THIS GENERAL PROBLEM SHOULD PROBABLY BE PURSUED WITH THE AGENCIES AND THE UNDP.

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**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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